

Paul W. Thurman

Management Consulting,
Training, and Development

207 Brewster Road
Scarsdale, New York 10583

Office/Fax: (914) 723-3811

Mobile: (917) 647-9090

Pager: (800) 404-7240

E-Mail: Paul.Thurman@Columbia.edu

January 2004

To: NIH/NCI Data Analysis Participants

Re: **First Assignment – To Be Completed Prior to our First Session**

Folks,

Welcome to our two-day seminar on data analysis and basic statistical concepts. I have a brief “assignment” for you to consider prior to our time together.

Please examine the four datasets below. Simply articulate what these data mean to you. Use any qualitative and/or quantitative tools you like; Microsoft Excel’s ‘Data Analysis’ add-in/toolkit is perfect for this analysis. Again, just describe what’s going on.

If it is helpful to you to assign names to the x- and y-values, feel free. Also, feel free to analyze each separately and then compare results. In the end, simply describe what’s going on with these datasets:

Dataset I:

X	Y
10.0	8.04
8.0	6.95
13.0	7.58
9.0	8.81
11.0	8.33
14.0	9.96
6.0	7.24
4.0	4.26
12.0	10.84
7.0	4.82
5.0	5.68

Dataset II:

X	Y
10.0	9.14
8.0	8.14
13.0	8.74
9.0	8.77
11.0	9.26
14.0	8.10
6.0	6.13
4.0	3.10
12.0	9.13
7.0	7.26
5.0	4.74

Dataset III:

X	Y
10.0	7.46
8.0	6.77
13.0	12.74
9.0	7.11
11.0	7.81
14.0	8.84
6.0	6.08
4.0	5.39
12.0	8.15
7.0	6.42
5.0	5.73

Dataset IV:

X	Y
8.0	6.58
8.0	5.76
8.0	7.71
8.0	8.84
8.0	8.47
8.0	7.04
8.0	5.25
19.0	12.50
8.0	5.56
8.0	7.91
8.0	6.89

NIH/NCI Data Analysis Participants
January 2004
Page 3

I look forward to working with you in February. Please bring your “solutions” to this assignment to class for discussion. Note that laptop computers are not required, but I will use some Excel output in some of the sessions to motivate some of the topics on the agenda.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Paul W. Thurman". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized 'P' and 'T'.

Paul W. Thurman
Clinical Professor
Mailman School of Public Health, Columbia University

Adjunct Professor
School of International and Public Affairs, Columbia University

Lecturer
Graduate School of Business, Columbia University